

ESTABLISHMENT OF A MASTER OF SCIENCE WITH A MAJOR IN HEALTH AND PHYSICAL EDUCATION TEACHING

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Board of Governors establish a new degree program, the Master of Science with a major in Health and Physical Education Teaching in the College of Education, effective Fall 2020.

Background

The State of Michigan has merged health and physical education teaching endorsements into one, and the Standards for the Preparation of Health and Physical Education Teachers have been completely revised. Therefore, we propose to redesign our program. Additionally, many school districts continue to lack an adequate number of certified health and physical education teachers. We are currently unable to respond to the multiple requests we receive for certified teachers. The Division of Kinesiology, Health and Sport Studies has a long history of working with school districts to fill this need and to provide in-service training to teachers currently certified as they attempt to increase their skills. For this proposed new program, we have made changes to effectively incorporate the revised standards and modified our program to accommodate the state's changes.

This new program fills a necessary void in Southeast Michigan, as we were the first university in the area to become an early adopter of the combined health and physical education teaching curriculum. Furthermore, there are no other programs in the region that offer four concentrations for a graduate major in health and physical education teaching. Finally, with this new program, we will be one of only a few graduate programs in the State of Michigan that offers a concentration in adapted physical education, leading to a special education teaching endorsement.

Program Description

The program emphasis is on obtaining knowledge in the content areas of health and physical education; planning for school health and physical education programs; implementing developmentally appropriate, effective health and physical education instruction that meets the needs of all learners; assessing health and physical education content knowledge and skill proficiency; using technology effectively in the school system; and demonstrating the qualities of a professional health and physical educator.

The Master of Science with a major in Health and Physical Education Teaching has four concentrations:

1. Continuing Education:
This concentration is designed for individuals with teacher certification in PE and/or Health and are returning for additional education hours in their content area and to obtain a master's degree.

2. Continuing Education – K-12 Health and Physical Education Teacher Certification:
This concentration is for individuals that are already certified in another subject area, but would like to add Health, Physical Education, or both to their teaching license.

3. Initial K-12 Health and Physical Education Teacher Certification:
This concentration is for individuals that already have a bachelor's degree, but would like to go back to school to become a teacher. These students will earn initial teacher certification through this master's degree.
4. K-12 Adapted Physical Education with Certification:
This concentration is for individuals already certified in Health and Physical Education or Special Education and would like to add the Adapted Physical Education endorsement to their State of Michigan teaching certificate.

Admissions Requirements

Applicants must meet requirements for admission to the Graduate School: An earned bachelor's degree with a minimum undergraduate degree GPA of 2.75 for regular admission and a GPA of 2.50 for qualified admission.

Curriculum Requirements

All students will complete this degree under Plan C (an essay or thesis is not required). The minimum requirement for the M.S. degree is 30 credit hours. Students who enter the concentration designed for initial K-12 health and physical education teacher certification may need more than 30 credits to complete the requirements for teacher certification required by the State of Michigan. The total number of credits for that concentration will be decided on an individual basis after a transcript review. Coursework varies by concentration.

Graduation Requirements

All coursework must be completed in accordance with the Graduate School and the regulations governing graduate scholarship and degrees.

Program Administration

The program coordinator and faculty in the Division of Kinesiology, Health and Sport Studies in the College of Education will provide oversight, make admissions decisions and provide advising to students. They will also be responsible for collecting and analyzing data on student progress and outcomes to evaluate program effectiveness and make modifications based on that information.

Budget and Resource Requirements

No new expenditures are required or requested.

Accreditation

Accreditation for all teaching programs is from the Council for the Accreditation of Education Preparation.

Approvals

The proposal was approved by the Division of Kinesiology, Health and Sport Studies, the College of Education Assembly, Dean of the College of Education, the Graduate Council, Dean of the Graduate School and the Provost.